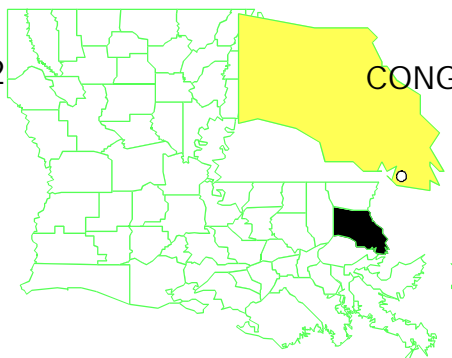


BAYOU BONFOUCA

LOUISIANA

EPA ID# LAD980745632



EPA REGION 6

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 01

St. Tammany Parish
Slidell

Updated 6/3/97

Site Description

- Location:**
- The site is at the location of the former American Creosote Works Plant within St. Tammany Parish, Slidell, Louisiana.
 - The site is south of West Hall Avenue in Slidell and north of and adjacent to Bayou Bonfouca.
- Population:**
- Approximately 26,000 residents live in the surrounding community.
- Setting:**
- Nearest residence potentially impacted by the site is approximately 400 feet from the site, across the bayou to the southwest.
 - Nearest drinking water well is approximately 1/4 mile northeast of the site.
 - The site was used for commercial operations involving the treatment of wood products with creosote.
 - The site encompasses more than 54 acres.
 - There are eight highly contaminated creosote areas at the site.
 - The northern half of the site is heavily wooded.
 - The site is bordered on the east by a drainage ditch, on the west by a creek, and on the south by Bayou Bonfouca.
 - The contaminants have been found in the bayou.
- Hydrology:**
- Seven stratigraphic layers were encountered in the first 60 feet during the Remedial Investigation of the site.
 - Three ground water systems were encountered at the site, including a surficial aquifer, a shallow artisan aquifer at 30 feet, and a deep artisan aquifer at 60+ feet.
 - The elevation of the 100-year floodplain is 9 feet mean sea level (MSL). Most of the site would be inundated by a flood of this elevation.

Wastes and Volumes

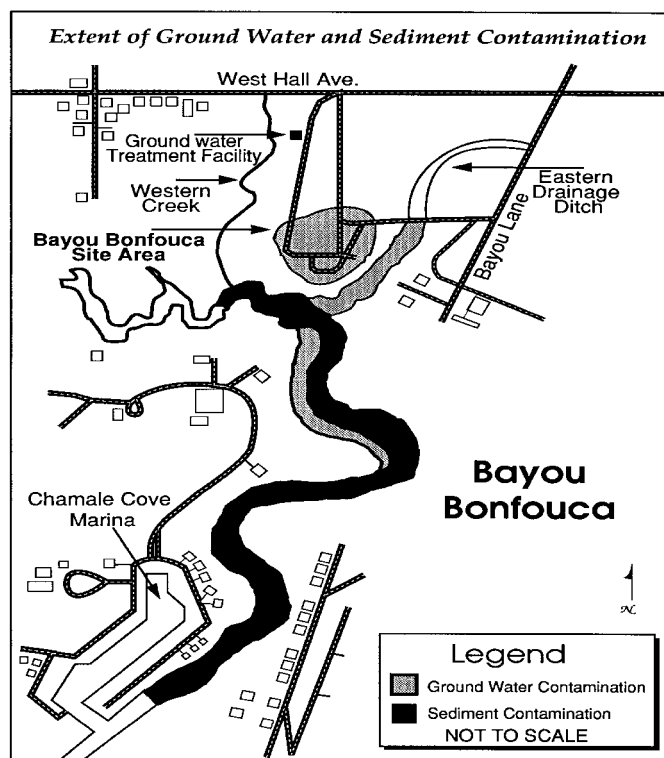
- The principal pollutants at the Bayou Bonfouca Superfund site include Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PNAs) - Creosote Compounds.

Site Assessment and Ranking

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Site HRS Score: 29.78
Proposed Date: 12/30/82
Final Date: 9/08/83
NPL Update: Original

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

- A creosote plant began operating at the site about 1882.
- Over the years, the plant operated under several owners, including Gulf States Creosoting, American Creosote, and American Creosote Works, with property ownership resting finally with the Braselman Corporation.
- Numerous releases of creosote occurred during the years of operation.
- In 1972, a fire occurred at the American Creosote Works plant; a large amount of creosote may have spilled from storage tanks and have been released into the environment.
- July - August 1985, the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP), under an EPA Administrative Order,

fenced the site.

Health Considerations:

- From ingestion of contaminated ground water from the shallow artisan aquifer, (currently not used as a drinking water source);
- From exposure to contaminated on site soils;
- From exposure to contaminated sediments in the western creek; the eastern channel; and the bayou; and,
- From ingestion of fish and shellfish from the bayou.

Record of Decision

Signed: March 31, 1987
Incorporated the Source Control ROD of August 15, 1985

- The Bayou Bonfouca Superfund site remedy for the overall site remedy includes:

- On site incineration
- Ground water treatment
- Bayou dredging

Other Remedies Considered

1. On site Landfill
2. Off site Landfill
3. Biological Treatment
4. No Action

Reason Not Chosen

Bayou sediments would not be treated
Least preferred under SARA
Feasibility concerns
Would not adequately protect human health and the environment

Community Involvement

- Community Involvement Plan: Developed 04/84, revised 08/85
- Open houses and workshops: 04/85, 06/86, 9/6/89, 7/12/90, 12/5/90, 6/26/91, 11/11/92, 12/8/93, 1/13/93, 3/3/93, 5/19/93, 7/21/93, 9/93, 11/93, 4/94, 6/94, 8/94, 12/94, 2/95, 1/96
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting: 02/87
- Original ROD Fact Sheet: 07/87; Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD): 1/90
- Milestone Fact Sheets: Update 03/88, 08/89, 06/90, 12/90 ESD decision 1/90, 1/93, 9/93, 11/93, 2/94, 5/94, 7/94, 9/95
- Citizens on site mailing list: 318
- Constituency Interest: High interest at site. Nearby residents strongly oppose on site landfill. Many residents strongly supportive of EPA efforts.
- Site Repository: St. Tammany Parish Library, Slidell Branch, Slidell, Louisiana
- Commemorative Activities: 6/91 - Ground Water Treatment Plant Completion; 9/95 - Source Control Construction Completion

Technical Assistance Grant

- Availability Notice: 02/89, 5/94, 6/94
- Letters of Intent Received: Slidell Working Against Major Pollution (SWAMP), 5/94;
Earth Beautiful Foundation, 6/94
- Final Application Received: 12/94
- Grant Award: 12/22/94 (To SWAMP)
- Technical Advisors Selected: 4/20/95 (Wilma Subra & Joel Hirschhorn)

Fiscal and Program Management

- **Remedial Project Manager:** Mark Hansen (EPA) 214-665-7548, Mail Code: 6SF-LT
- **State Contact:** Duane Wilson (LDEQ) 504-765-0463
- **Community Involvement Coordinator:** Verne McFarland (EPA) 214-665-6617,
Mail Code: 6SF-PO
- **Attorney:** Jim Turner (EPA) 214-665-3159, Mail Code: 6SF-DL
- **Prime Contractor:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/IT Corporation

Cost Recovery:

- PRPs Identified: 7
- Viable PRPs: 5
- Civil action filed March 11, 1996 in U.S. District Court for Eastern District of Louisiana.

Present Status and Issues

- Ground water pumping and treatment began in June 1991 and has reduced the volume of contamination and prevented further migration.
- As of July 1996, 6,028,167 gallons of contaminated ground water have been treated and 19,118 gallons of pure creosote oils recovered.
- Incineration operations began in November 1993 when trial burn activities were conducted. Incineration was completed on July 28, 1995 18 months ahead of schedule. Early noise issues were addressed by the installation of an "in-stack" silencer.
- Demobilization of the incinerator was completed in December 1996, after completion of Southern Shipbuilding Superfund Site waste treatment.
- A Ground water Remedial Action, 5 Year Review was completed in September 1996, which recommended continued ground water recovery and treatment.
- The Site property and buildings were donated to the City of Slidell by Brasselman Corporation and EPA for future use by the city as a city maintenance yard, sewage control facility during flood events, and possibly as a park. The keys to the property were transferred to the City in January, 1997.

Benefits

- EPA's remedial action has detoxified over 170,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment, and treated 10 million gallons of contaminated ground water. A mile and a half of the Bayou has been restored for aquatic life, as well as human recreational and residential use. Creosote in the Bayou was so concentrated that it caused 2nd degree chemical burns to divers; the Bayou was biologically sterile.